

Message Text

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PAGE 01 QUITO 07246 311554Z

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ACTION CU-03

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3061

INFO AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

UNCLAS QUITO 7246

FOR CU/ARA; ARA/EP

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, SCUL

SUBJECT: ECUADOR FULBRIGHT PROGRAM: TRANSFER OF FUNDS FROM
ADMINISTRATIVE TO PROGRAM CATEGORY

REF: A) STATE 233214; B) QUITO 6968

1. NEWS CONTAINED IN REFTEL (A) OF ONLY ONE NEW FULL STUDENT GRANT, THREE RENEWALS, FOUR PARTIALS AND NO TRAVEL ONLY GRANTS FOR ECUADOR, WHEN ANNOUNCED AT OCTOBER 24 FULBRIGHT COMMISSION MEETING, BROUGHT ON CRIES OF CONSTERNATION, DISMAY, ANGUISH AND BITTERNESS.

2. COMMENTS OF THE COMMISSION MEMBERS RAN ALONG THESE LINES: "THIS IS NOT WORTH THE TROUBLE THIS PROGRAM IS SO SMALL IT IS NOT WORTH OUR TIME AND THE FULBRIGHT ADMINISTRATIVE APPARATUS HERE THIS IS AN INSULT."

3. EMBARRASSINGLY, THE COMMISSION HAD ALREADY BEEN PROCESSING, AFTER THE INITIAL INTERVIEW PROCESS, FIVE FULL SCHOLARSHIP GRANTS AND FOUR PARTIALS WHEN REFTEL (A) WAS RECEIVED. FROM 37 GRANTS TO ECUADOREANS IN 1965, WE WILL GO TO EIGHT IN 1975.

4. IRONICALLY, THE RECEIPT OF REFTEL (A) COINCIDED WITH COMMISSION'S DRAFTING OF A LETTER OF SALUTATION TO SENATOR FULBRIGHT FOR THE BFS DINNER HONORING THE SENATOR'S RETIREMENT
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AND HIS INITIATIVE IN STARTING THIS UNIQUE EDUCATIONAL

EXCHANGE PROGRAM.

5. EVEN BEFORE THIS REDUCTION IN STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS, ECUADOR'S FULBRIGHT PROGRAM WAS SMALL IN TERMS OF BUDGET AND GRANTS SUPPORTED. IN VIEW OF INFLATIONARY RISES IN EDUCATIONAL COSTS AND THEIR INEVITABLE CONSEQUENCES FOR EDUCATION AND EXCHANGE PROGRAMS, PERHAPS THE TIME HAS COME TO RESTRUCTURE THE REMAINS OF THE FULBRIGHT PROGRAM INTO THE ECUADOREAN INSTITUTE FOR EDUCATIONAL CREDIT AND SCHOLARSHIPS, THE GOE ENTITY WHICH ADMINISTERS GRANTS FOR THE OAS AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS. THAT WOULD PERHAPS BE BETTER THAN WITNESSING THIS ONCE HIGHLY PRESTIGIOUS AND VIGOROUS PROGRAM, GOVERNED BY INDIVIDUAL OF GREATEST INTEGRITY AND IMPORTANCE IN THE COUNTRY, SLOWLY ATROPHY INTO EVENTUAL TOTAL INANITION.

6. WILL ADVISE SOONEST HOW COMMISSION WILL DIVIDE \$35,000 AMONG, FULL, PARTIAL AND TRAVEL ONLY GRANTS.

7. PLEASE BRING THIS MESSAGE TO THE ATTENTION OF AMBASSADOR BREWSTER.
HEMENWAY

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